

1 I Claim:

2
3 1. In combination:

4
5 at least one public safety answering point operative to receive
6 emergency communications from at least one local exchange
7 carrier facility and dispatch emergency response units in
8 response to receipt of said emergency communications; and

9
10 an emergency backup communications system for facilitating
11 emergency responses in the event of loss of communication
12 and/or inoperability of said at least one local public safety
13 answering point, said emergency backup communications system
14 including;

15
16 a secondary central communications facility in generally
17 independent and generally secure information transmission
18 connection with said at least one local exchange carrier
19 facility;

20
21 automated location identification interface means operative to
22 receive and facilitate information reception from an
23 automated location identification (ALI) system associated
24 with said at least one local exchange carrier facility;

25
26 computer aided dispatch interface means operative to receive
27 and facilitate information reception from a computer
28

1 aided dispatch (CAD) system associated with said at least
2 one local exchange carrier facility;

3
4 at least one operator in said secondary central communications
5 facility operative to receive incoming emergency
6 communications and screen said incoming emergency
7 communications for location and response information;

8
9 dispatch means in said secondary central communications
10 facility operative to interpret said information received
11 via said incoming emergency communications, said
12 automated location identification interface means and
13 said computer aided dispatch interface means and transmit
14 dispatch information including said location and response
15 information to emergency response units for response to
16 incoming emergency communications from said at least one
17 local exchange carrier facility.

18
19 **2.** The combination of claim **1** wherein said secondary central
20 communications facility is generally impervious to externally-based
21 operational disruptions to facilitate generally uninterruptible
22 emergency communications with local exchange carrier facilities and
23 emergency response units thereby generally ensuring uninterrupted
24 emergency response to emergency situations which have disabled a
25 public safety answering point.

26
27 **3.** The combination of claim **1** wherein said automated
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1 location identification interface means and said computer aided
2 dispatch interface means each include programmable computing means
3 operative to receive emergency communications data from an
4 automated location identification (ALI) system and a computer aided
5 dispatch (CAD) system associated with said at least one local
6 exchange carrier facility and identify and interpret the incoming
7 emergency communications data and output recognizable location and
8 response information independent of the specific automated location
9 identification (ALI) system and a computer aided dispatch (CAD)
10 system from which said emergency communications data is received.
11

12 **4.** The combination of claim **1** further comprising
13 communications means operative to interface with both military and
14 civil communications systems to facilitate interorganizational
15 communications thereby acting as a macrosystem.
16

17 **5.** The combination of claim **1** wherein said at least one
18 operator is at least one highly trained individual.
19

20 **6.** The combination of claim **1** wherein said generally
21 independent and generally secure information transmission
22 connection between said at least one local exchange carrier
23 facility and said secondary central communications facility is
24 selected from the group comprising landline, fiber optic,
25 microwave, radio communications, satellite communications and
26 cable.
27
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1 7. An emergency backup communications system for
2 facilitating emergency responses in the event of loss of
3 communication and/or inoperability of a public safety answering
4 point, said emergency backup communications system comprising:

5
6 a secondary central communications facility in generally
7 independent and generally secure information transmission
8 connection with a local exchange carrier facility;

9
10 automated location identification interface means operative to
11 receive and facilitate information reception from an automated
12 location identification (ALI) system associated with a local
13 exchange carrier facility;

14
15 computer aided dispatch interface means operative to receive and
16 facilitate information reception from a computer aided
17 dispatch (CAD) system associated with a local exchange carrier
18 facility;

19
20 at least one operator in said secondary central communications
21 facility operative to receive incoming emergency
22 communications and screen said incoming emergency
23 communications for location and response information;

24
25 dispatch means in said secondary central communications facility
26 operative to interpret said information received via said
27 incoming emergency communications, said automated location
28

1 identification interface means and said computer aided
2 dispatch interface means and transmit dispatch information
3 including location and situation information to emergency
4 response units for response to incoming emergency
5 communications from a local exchange carrier facility; and
6

7 said secondary central communications facility being generally
8 impervious to externally-based operational disruptions to
9 facilitate generally uninterruptible emergency communications
10 with local exchange carrier facilities and emergency response
11 units thereby generally ensuring uninterrupted emergency
12 response to emergency situations which have disabled a public
13 safety answering point.
14

15 **8.** The emergency backup communications system of claim 7
16 wherein said automated location identification interface means and
17 said computer aided dispatch interface means each include
18 programmable computing means operative to receive emergency
19 communications data from an automated location identification (ALI)
20 system and a computer aided dispatch (CAD) system associated with
21 said at least one local exchange carrier facility and identify and
22 interpret the incoming emergency communications data and output
23 recognizable location and response information independent of the
24 specific automated location identification (ALI) system and a
25 computer aided dispatch (CAD) system from which said emergency
26 communications data is received.
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1 **9.** The emergency backup communications system of claim 7
2 further comprising communications means operative to interface with
3 both military and civil communications systems to facilitate
4 interorganizational communications thereby acting as a macrosystem.

5
6 **10.** The emergency backup communications system of claim 7
7 wherein said at least one operator is at least one highly trained
8 individual.

9
10 **11.** The emergency backup communications system of claim 7
11 wherein said generally independent and generally secure information
12 transmission connection between said at least one local exchange
13 carrier facility and said secondary central communications facility
14 is selected from the group comprising landline, fiber optic,
15 microwave, radio communications, satellite communications and
16 cable.

1 **12.** A method of providing an emergency backup communications
2 system for facilitating emergency responses in the event of the
3 nonfunctionality of a public safety answering point, said method
4 comprising the steps:

5
6 providing a secondary central communications facility in generally
7 independent and generally secure information transmission
8 connection with a local exchange carrier facility, said
9 secondary central communications facility being generally
10 impervious to externally-based operational disruptions to
11 facilitate generally uninterruptible emergency communications
12 with local exchange carrier facilities and emergency response
13 units ;

14
15 providing an automated location identification interface means
16 operative to receive and facilitate information reception from
17 an automated location identification (ALI) system associated
18 with a local exchange carrier facility;

19
20 providing a computer aided dispatch interface means operative to
21 receive and facilitate information reception from a computer
22 aided dispatch (CAD) system associated with a local exchange
23 carrier facility;

24
25 determining that the public safety answering point is
26 nonfunctional;

1 substituting said secondary central communications facility and
2 said generally independent and generally secure information
3 transmission connection for the nonfunctional public safety
4 answering point;

5
6 receiving incoming emergency communications via said generally
7 independent and generally secure information transmission
8 connection within said secondary central communications
9 facility from a local exchange carrier facility;

10
11 screening said incoming emergency communications for location and
12 response information;

13
14 interpreting said location and response information via said
15 incoming emergency communications, said automated location
16 identification interface means and said computer aided
17 dispatch interface means such that the location and response
18 for the emergency situation is determined; and

19
20 transmitting dispatch information including said location and
21 response information to emergency response units for response
22 to incoming emergency communications from a local exchange
23 carrier facility.